

Aric Newhouse

Senior Vice President
Policy and Government Relations

July 8, 2015

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to oppose the amendment offered by Representative Donna Edwards (D-MD) to strike Section 438 from H.R. 2822, the Department of the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2016.

Manufacturers are committed to continuing the progress made over the last several decades in improving air quality, but need balanced and reasonable regulations to remain competitive in the global economy.

On December 17, 2014, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed to tighten the national standard for ground-level ozone, even though the current standard of 75 parts per billion (ppb) has not yet been fully implemented. The EPA's proposed range of 65 to 70 ppb could be the most expensive regulation in U.S. history, costing the economy as much as \$140 billion annually, placing the equivalent of 1.4 million jobs in jeopardy and costing the average U.S. household \$830 per year. It could place thousands of counties across the country into nonattainment, a punitive classification that severely inhibits business growth.

Section 438 of H.R. 2822 would prevent the EPA from implementing a stricter new ozone standard until 85 percent of U.S. counties come into compliance with the existing standard. The Edwards Amendment would remove this important provision from H.R. 2822 intended to provide states and manufacturers with the needed time to meet the current ozone regulation.

The NAM's Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on the Edwards Amendment, including procedural motions, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 114th Congress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Aric Newhouse

Key Manufacturing Vote